

Message Text

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44

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 AF-08 ISO-00 IO-13 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 ACDA-07 SAJ-01 OMB-01 /089 W

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R 171525Z AUG 76

FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7647

INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

AMCONSUL LENINGRAD

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY MAPUTO

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, MASS, UR, US, XA

SUBJECT: SOVIET PRESS INDICATES STRONG CONCERN OVER U.S.

AFRICAN POLICY

1. SUMMARY. LENGTHY ARTICLES ON U.S. AFRICAN POLICY BY V. KUDRYAVTSEV (AUG 13, IZVESTIYA) AND L. VALENTININ (AUG 14, PRAVDA) INDICATE CONTINUED SOVIET CONCERN OVER NEW U.S. POLICY TOWARD AFRICA. BACK TO BACK PUBLICATION PERHAPS TIED TO OPENING OF NON-ALIGNED CONFERENCE, DRAWSS ATTENTION TO URGENCY OF THEIR CONCERN AND CONTENTS OF ARTICLES REVEAL MOST DETAILED SOVIET CRITICISM YET OF U.S. AFRICAN POLICY MOVES SET IN MOTION BY SECRETARY'S LUSAKA SPEECH. END SUMMARY.

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2. ASSUME DEPARTMENT HAS TEXTS. WISH TO NOTE FOLLOWING POINTS:

3. "NEW" U.S. POLICY RECEIVES SARCASTIC TREATMENT THROUGHOUT; PHRASE USUALLY APPEARS IN QUOTATION MARKS; VALENTININ SAYS "NEW" IMPERIALIST DOCTRINE IS BEING WORKED OUT IN BOWELS OF OFFICIAL AND SECRET SERVICES. EMPHASIS US ON TACTICAL NATURE OF "CORRECTIONS" TO PREVIOUS POLICY TO SHIELD REAL TACTICAL GOALS , I.E., TO DEFLECT GROWING NATIONAL-LIBERATION WAVE IN SOUTHERN AFRICA, TO SET AFRICAN COUNTRIES AGAINST ONE ANOTHER, TO SOW SEEDS OF DISCORD AMONG THEM, TO DISTRACT THEIR ATTENTION FROM SOLUTION OF ESSENTIAL PROBLEMS. ALL THIS, BOTH ARTICLES MAINTAIN, IS DESIGNED TO PRESERVE U.S. MONOPOLY INTERESTS IN AFRICA, PARTICULARLY CONTINUED ACCESS TO REGION'S RAW MATERIALS AND (KUDRYAVTSEV) UTILIZATION OF REGION AS A STRATEGIC MILITARY BRIDGE-HEAD.

4. IN THIS REGARD, BOTH ARTICLES WARN OF U.S. MILITARY SUPPLY RELATIONSHIP WITH CERTAIN AFRICAN STATES. THESE STATES ARE THOSE WHICH ARE NEO-COLONIALIST OR WHICH GIVE PREFERENCE TO THEIR TIES WITH IMPERIALISM, BUT NONE ARE NAMED EXPLICITLY.

5. KUDRYAVTSEV DRAWS PARTICULAR ATTENTION IN HIS ARTICLE TO ALLEGED EFFORT OF U.S. "RULING CIRCLES" TO FORESTALL LIBERATION STRUGGLE IN ZIMBABWE AND NAMIBIA AND TO CREATE PUPPET REGIMES THERE. PARTICULAR LINK IS MADE BETWEEN THIS EFFORT AND DRAFT PROJECT OF CREATION ON AUGUST 24 OF MULTI-RACIAL PUPPET GOVERNMENT IN NAMIBIA PRIOR TO AUGUST 31 UNSC DISCUSSION ON NAMIBIA.

6. WHILE VALENTININ DRAWS ISRAEL AND PRC INTO HIS CRITICISM OF EVENTS IN AFRICA, BOTH ARTICLES, PARTICULARLY KUDRYAVTSEV'S, EMPHASIZE U.S. ANGLE. KUDRYAVTSEV MENTIONS NOT ONLY SECRETARY'S AFRICA TRIP AND BOSTON SPEECH, BUT ALSO RUMSFELD, SCRANTON, AND SCHAUFLELE TRIPS.

7. KUDRYAVTSEV CONCLUDES BY PREDICTING FAILURE OF U.S. POLICY. "WE WILL SAY IT STRAIGHT," SAYS KUDRYAVTSEV, "NEW U.S. POLICY WILL COME TO SAME FAILURE AS THAT WHICH WAS BASED ON RACIST REGIMES AND INTERNAL AFRICAN REACTION." MOST "NEW- POLICY CAN DO, HE CONCLUDES, IS TO COMPLICATE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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SITUATION IN AFRICA, TO HAMPER FORWARD MOVEMENT OF AFRICAN PEOPLE. "BUT IS POWERLESS," HE SAYS, "TO STOP HISTORY."

8. COMMENT. NEARLY SIMULTANEOUS APPEARANCE OF TWO LENGTHY, DETAILED ARTICLES IS PROBABLY INDICATION OF SOVIET CONCERN THAT U.S. POLICY MIGHT HAVE SOME CHANCE FOR SUCCESS. HOWEVER, MOSCOW'S TACTIC OF LABELING AS UNCLE TOM THOSE BLACK REGIMES WHICH MIGHT ACCEPT U.S. ARMS MIGHT WELL BACKFIRE AND

MAKE EVEN MORE DIFFICULT MOSCOW'S EFFORT TO IMPROVE RELATIONS
WITH THOSE STATES.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 17 AUG 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: ShawDG
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976MOSCOW13001
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760315-1094
From: MOSCOW
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760847/aaaabofm.tel
Line Count: 118
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: ShawDG
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 20 APR 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <20 APR 2004 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <07 SEP 2004 by ShawDG>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SOVIET PRESS INDICATES STRONG CONCERN OVER U.S. AFRICAN POLICY
TAGS: PFOR, MASS, UR, US, XA
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006